March 15, 1935.

Reverend James R. Speer,
720 East Broadway,
Monmouth, Illinois.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Speer:

Your letter of March thirteenth arrived today. We are very much pleased that you find it possible to be here by April fourth. I think there are many reasons why this will be better than to await the following week. Doctor Thomson said he and his wife had written you to be their guests. You could be in no finer home. Mr. Doig also said he and Mrs. Doig would like to have you. Doctor Thomson's would be more convenient, but you can make your selection.

I think the whole Church is quite enthusiastic over your coming. I am glad that Mr. MacInnes wrote you. He wrote me a letter, saying he had learned a few things about you, and that you were preeminently the man for us. Like you, I fully believe that this is a matter in which Our Lord has had a part, and we all anticipate a very useful and delightful Pastorate. You have had experience enough to know that there are always small matters coming up to disturb one a little, but they will not be serious.

Mrs. Robinson and I are thoroughly delighted with the prospect.

I hope your father has recovered. This morning, Mrs. Davies, one of our best members, whose grandparents, on both sides, were also members of the Old First, passed from earth. We shall miss her, very much. She was President of the Missionary Society last year. She was a particular friend of Mrs. Robinson. They had been most intimate since she was a little girl.

I shall announce, on Sabbath, that you are to come April fourth. We shall be happy if you find it convenient and pleasant to let us have the benefit of your youth and vigor.

Please accept, for yourselves and also your parents, our deep interest and regard.

Most cordially yours,

WCR/RW

Hillview Farm
Potsdam, N.Y.

July 8, 1935.

Your dear People:

Such nice letters from you both! And how much good your coming did us, and how lonely the house seemed after you had gone! So many people who were here the evening of your anniversary have voiced their enjoyment over having you with us again.

Marion writes that "moving is hell" (not meant for your ears) Perhaps because some of her furniture was stolen may excuse her

profanity. Both children are now in Potsdam - Jane with us, has wisely decided to omit Summer school for this season, is improving in health.

Fred Weed came very near passing out with acute indigestion last week after which his wife returned from down state.

George, too, had a digestive upset and the doctor ordered him to the hospital for two days treatment. After visiting him one evening I came home to find our front screen door festooned with a funeral looking bouquet; after accusing every one in the family found the Pronts guilty.

Madam Pront is in bed most of the time now. Mrs. Mm. tells

Sis. Ada letter is filed away, likewise the Parsons only lines are so rare. Let us hear again. Love from The Sissons

me he had such a nice letter from you. You have made two more friends for life.

You are now enjoying your family, am so glad the little boy is recovering. Please remember me to Stewart and his lovely wife. You are certainly blest in your children.

Has this terrific heat reached Delhi? Thunderstorms last night have reduced the temperature thirty degrees here.

I cannot tell you how much pleasure your visit gave us - It must soon be repeated.

Yes: I'm surely coming to Delhi - in the early fall, Providence permitting if not before.

Tell the Tulich children were in church today with Mrs. Scott. How they have grown.

We have been thinking again of the wonderful blessing of having such friends for forty years.

Thank God for you and for what you have done for us.

MRS. RUFUS L. SISSON
53 ELM STREET
POTSDAM, NEW YORK

To our dear Robinson -

This Monday morning at 8.30, I find on my desk this envelope directed to you - and that it may not chide me any longer - I take my pen in hand -

First may I thank you for the very gracious and welcome greeting for the celebration of Sept. 1st. My relation and children helped to make the day and the date a very memorable one - We had a very pleasant

get-together over at Rufus Jr's. Erma Lena and Charlie came. Of course it was the first gathering since Fred's passing but doubtless the occasion made it as possible and as easy as any that could have come. Rufe especially was delighted to have the family together.

As far as I can see Rufe is about the same - if he leads a quiet life. The sadest part of it all is that he realizes he cannot do the things he formerly did - and time hangs heavily some days. He reads very little and does not care to be

MRS. RUFUS L. SISSON
53 ELM STREET
POTSDAM, NEW YORK

read to. Not for a short time.

Your splendid and comforting letter came the same day as your telegram of congratulations. Both made us very happy.

Often, Oh! so often do I wish you were within hailing distance - when we could motor for an hour or two - and come back refreshed and encouraged.

Our church is very late in getting started. No midweek service until this week. No Sabbath School to amount to anything. No Missionary

meeting until October. The women are struggling to put on our regular luncheon for the Teachers' Conference this Friday - but our organizations are at sixes and sevens - with all treasurys depleted.

This, dear friends is not intended for criticism, but - tis the result of a "center control", which no one has been able to stop. This year the Session was called together - and they, with no advice from our women - decided upon an entirely new plan for the student reception by the church. This was provided now by a student - a very sweet young girl, and held on Sunday

MRS. RUFUS L. SISSON
53 ELM STREET
POTSDAM, NEW YORK

Many seem to think that Mr. P-
is candidating = he is to hear again
next Sunday, I believe when Mr. Maddox
preaches. No matter what may result.
We should have a change. We do
appreciate much ability in many
many ways. But the bit of religious
fervor shed upon us last June.
only served to make us realize
our needs. We thought George was
going to approach Mr. Prout after
consulting all officers of the church
but you know George never meets

an issue - Often it is wise this should be avoided - but - not - this time I fear.

And here I am - letting my pen tell you things it - should not - Please forgive me -

It is well I am not - active in politics, else I would be guilty - unhappy - We do need a man like Landon - but - I fear that - the religion and Federal Employees can outvote us -

Grace Park - has not been at all well - living alone - never or seldom leaving home - and her deafness shuts her up within herself - and allows her

MRS. RUFUS L. SISSON
53 ELM STREET
POTSDAM, NEW YORK

to think and worry over-much- No one can understand just why her finances have been so depleted- The care of that big house is a man's job- but I fear that she never will part with it.

Grace Sisson and I are to be, or expect to be in Rochester next week for our D. A. R. Conference-

Rufus often talks of Florida for the winter, but when one is not well- there is no place like home- with space to roam- places to go- good beds- easy chairs - and last but by

no means least - we can be warm - an impossible thing in Florida last winter -

The day's duties call - and I must close - Graciously and kindly excuse all I have said that should not have been said.

With very best wishes - we are

Affectionately Yours -

Mary C. Sisson -

Sept 28" - 1936 -

Nine A.M.

Dear Dr. Robinson, —

I am grateful to you for many things. For your kind thoughts of us at all times. For your good and helpful letters to me. For your visits to us during May's illness. For the words of comfort and assurance at the service in our home.

I think you must know that May was fond of

you. She would have been drawn toward you because of your friendship and kindness to her father and to the Bruce family. But mostly she liked you for yourself.

She wanted a simple home service, and I feel sure she would have wanted you and Dr.

Intend to read
the verses and make
the prayer.

I deeply
appreciate your
friendly help and
your kindness.

We are
back in Binghamton
and the chickies
are well and in
school.

With
heartfelt thanks,
I am Sincerely
Merritt Stuart

December the second.

July 9, 1936.

Sage Memorial Presbyterian Church,
Far Rockaway,
New York.

Gentlemen:

Not knowing the names of your Elders, I am addressing you through the Church.

Very recently, I was told that your Pastor has left, and that you are searching for one. Perhaps, you have not set about it very much, yet. Permit me to suggest a name of one, who is worthy of your investigation and, I believe, quite equal to doing a great work in your Church--Reverend John T. Galloway, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Hobart, New York,--a man not far from thirty years old. He is not married, but I think he has been hindered because of the necessity of assisting in his brother's education. He is a college graduate, and also of Princeton Theological Seminary. He is very fine-looking, and always gracious in manner. He is a master musician, and has a very rich baritone voice. He has done a remarkable work in training a Boy Choir in his Church, which has excited the interest of the boys, their parents, the community and, in fact, the whole region round about. He has done superlative work. He does things carefully and solidly. As a pastor, he is, I think, outstanding. He is a scholar in several lines. Altogether, I count Mr. Galloway as one of the most promising young men I know.

I am writing this, unbeknown to him, and I certainly would gain criticism from his Church people, if they know, and I hope you will not tell them. I write because I think he is worthy of your Church, and would do you good. May I submit his name, hoping that you will look him up?

Most truly yours,

WCR/RW

July 9, 1936.

Mr. and Mrs. Rufus L. Sisson,
Potsdam,
New York.

Dear Friends,

Having so soon, after my coming from Potsdam, been plunged into real grief by Fred's sudden death, I feel like writing to you.

This is the first break in a very remarkable family, since the sister died many, many years ago. Of course, I did not know Fred and his family quite as I have some of the other Sisson families, and yet, I have known them for forty years. My relations have been very pleasant. Fred always called out my affection in full measure. He had so much that was modest, yet true, lovable and steadfast. I had no thought of his passing away. He bade me farewell vigorously, and with warm spirit. I can not think of him as being dead. He was a very modest man, and I loved to hear him sing as well as I ever did anyone. To think of his service of more than forty-five years in the Choir;--and I think he was as good a singer at the last as he was when I was there forty years ago. At any rate, he always moved me when he sang. I know that it will distress you all very much, but we must remember that our times are in other hands than our own. Such things remind you that this is not our only world. I know that I need to be so reminded, very often. I hope that Lena and the children will bear up, as I fully expect them to do. Few families had a finer, more congenial husband and father than did theirs. Their home was most beautiful, and the spirit in it even better.

I want you to tell all the family circle of the deep sympathy of my wife and myself. I can not get it out of my mind. I do not recall ever having a death--and I have had many--that touched me more deeply.

I hope R. L. is continuing in fair health. I understand that Charles and his wife are away. I feel I ought to be there, when anything touches my friends. You people have been so much to me and to mine through the years that, as I grow older, I can not forget nor lessen my debt.

We unite in sending love to you both, and wishing all good things to you and yours.

Most sincerely,

WCR/RW

July 9, 1936.

Mr. and Mrs. George W. Sisson, Jr.,
Hillview Farm,
Potsdam, New York.

Dear Friends,

I do not recall a time when I was so much shocked as I was by the telegram from Lena. I called Tuesday night, but you were not in a condition to say much. I wanted to go, but I have several appointments, and my wife and physician thought I had better not.

I had a deep affection for Fred. He had many virtues, which I greatly admired. Of course, I did not know him and Lena, as I know you people, but they always have given me so much consideration, that I wanted to be there this afternoon, as a mourner. As I grew older, I find myself clinging more and more tenaciously to you friends whom I have known for so long. The departure of Fred, with such suddenness, is, indeed, startling;--apparently, so well and younger than some of you, he seemed destined for many years. I always loved to hear him sing. Other voices, I suppose, were more cultivated, but I have seldom heard one that touched my heart more than his. He was so modest about it, and yet, I knew he loved it. His service of more than forty years in that Choir is worthy of particular note. Mrs. Fort wrote us the details, and that Doctor Prout was in New York, but he would get back in ample time. It was said that Frederick reached there just a little too late. It must have been a terrific shock to him. I do not know him, but I am sure his father would be much beloved. I have thought of you all this afternoon.

Last Tuesday, I buried Mrs. James Jacobs, whom you know, and whom I had known since her girlhood. That was very sad, too, and her sickness was only about four days.

My friends have died within a week,--one at sixty-four, Fred at sixty-five, Doctor Goodrich at sixty-six,--rather a strange and startling sequence, all younger than I.

We are having distressingly hot weather, and the soil is very dry. Things do not look very cheerful today.

Please assure Lena, as I have wired her twice, that our hearts are with her. She will have a hard time.

With sincere affection from us both to you and all of yours, I am

Most cordially,

WCR/RW

The People of the City of Syracuse
cordially invite

Dr. F. C. Robinson

to attend as a Guest of honor

The Syracuse Jubilee

September 24-25-26-1936

in celebration of the elevation of the New York Central Railroad tracks in Syracuse

R B Mawer
Mayor

Frank J. Revoir
General Chairman

This invitation entitles the bearer to all courtesies of the city administration and The Jubilee Committee during the celebration

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

Aug. 4, 1936.

Dear Dr. Robinson:

What a friend you are!

Last night George left for another trip and I was rather down in the mouth, as I often do to get a bit of inspiration from your pen. I picked up the Presbyterian of July 23 - as yet unread and what a lovely thing I found! It was unnecessary to add Fudo name to it. It stood out large all over the page. I have given it to Lena and sent for more copies so that we can, each family, have one.

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

It was a beautiful tribute and such a word picture. You cannot know what it will mean to those nearest to have that lovely message.

Lena has stood up bravely as have the children but the numbness has worn off and the reaction has been inevitable. She worries over the future will have to give up the home though Freds business was in far better shape than that of his brothers.

The children will be here till fall and their marriages have been peculiarly fortunate and happy.

What will the church do for a choir Grant has submitted his resignation

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

which is as it should be but where is his successor?

So many problems come up, but God is doubtless guiding but how we will miss Fred's voice. Heaven's choir is the richer by his going.

Love to you both,

Mary.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201-S

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MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

POTSDAM NY 107P JUL 7 1936

DR W C ROBINSON

DELHI

FRED PASSED AWAY THIS VORNING FUNERAL THURSDAY AT FOUR

LENA SISSON

124P

WESTERN UNION ALONE SERVES 89% OF THE PLACES HAVING TELEGRAPH OFFICES

We had services at Ardmore church (our own church home where Laird & we all have been so happy) Mr Frew our Pastor took charge. It was a beautiful service.

Mrs. Laird Hardcastle Simons

and the members of her family

acknowledge with deep appreciation

the kind expression of your sympathy

I felt it would be unkind to ask you to come on, trips are harder as one grows older. I can't take them now.

Dear Dr Robison – Thanks for telegram. True is every word of your kind loving letter and much more too. I have been truly blessed of women in his companionship and ever thoughtful and tender love for 22½ years. and the children in such a Father.

Of course through the brighter the sunshine the deeper the shadow. The way looks dark

and hard before us without
him, although in every thoughtful
way he has planned & provided bountifully
and lovingly for us in death as
he ever did in life.

It is only in the strength
of the Lord that we have courage
to press on. Emetta & Laird p
are taking marvelous loving care
of me & measuring up in a
fine way to their new responsibilities

I am proud of them.

Emetta graduated from Bryn Mawr Cum Laude after her Father was unconscious, so he never knew although he still lingered with us another week. Laird Jr. starts a summer job at Wm. Amen for 6 weeks on July 6th. The two crowning points of Lairds' life which he had anticipated with keen joy ever since they were born.

He was sick 2 weeks, stricken suddenly + in a Coma or unconscious condition all the time. The past year he has been wonderfully well, seemed 15 years younger. We have had such a blessful year together. Amelia

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

June 7, 1936.

Dear Ashmons:

Thank you for the recent letter. They are always so helpful.

We are looking forward to your both coming for the church anniversary. What about transportation? We will meet you half way anyway. This is a little early for anyone connected with G. W. S. to make definite plans but "The Lord will provide." By that time perhaps Stewart family will be there to "keep house" so Lady Bob need not worry.

On account of a number of things it would seem that we might be

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

unable to accept your invitation to Delhi until early fall.

Her Aunt had dinner with us today his wife being in Roanoke. In some way he is livable and is certainly mellowed since his mothers death. Matters seem to be unchanged until after the anniversary. Aufe's attitude toward him is no fault of his but of poor Aufe's mind. He seems to be the one particular person whom he has turned against. Poor May is having no picnic ~~but~~ is serene outwardly but says she is tense all the time not knowing what will come next. Her sister, Hattie also suffers from his dislike. Though he gets out, the family worry.

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

Mrs. Laurence tells me she was a little girl in the Philadelphia church with which she united later. She says you would remember her father, Dr. Thrush.

Sadie is back to normal again and I cannot tell you what it means to us all to have her the same sweet self.

Margaret and her husband are here for ten weeks. Francis has just completed his course at Chapel Hill and will be home.

Am mailing you a copy of the Herald-Recorder with the news of the week and of coming events. - Shades of Summer.-

Did we tell you that we expect you to stay with us - coming at your convenience and remaining as long as possible. Love to you both

Mary

George will add a line

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

Dear Robinsons –

Mary has written most of the news – that is the current news. The "big things" in the near future here are the Old Normal Reunion beginning this week end and our Church's anniversary – 'Tis my 55th class year – and only two or three left of the original 24.

I do hope the Church's historic meetings will carry the atmosphere it deserves and the impression it should leave –

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

To have you, Steele, Cowan and Frelick back will be like a "restoration" or a "reformation" — both of which are needed —

Dr. Prout has requested me to preside at the Monday evening Church Supper and "Old Home" speaking program. Just what character it will take I cannot say — but certainly — in an atmosphere of a re-united family gathering — it can be

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

not only strong in reminiscence, but touch deeper into the things that have made and held the church in its past - and which must be looked to and depended upon to sustain it in the future.

We do look forward to having you both with us -

With best wishes

George S.

REV. DAVID GARRETT SMITH
MINISTER
PHONE 776

First Presbyterian Church

SOUTHAMPTON
LONG ISLAND
N. Y.

JOHN A. HERRICK
CLERK OF SESSION

May 12,1936:-

Rev. Courtland Robinson,D.D.,
Delhi,
N.Y.

My dear Dr. Robinson:-

I have just read your letter,for which I was very thankful,and am making haste to reply.I can read between the lines that you have some time and inclination to review the past,and recall some of the friends out of the long-ago,shall I say? Or,does that seem too much like growing old? Well,none of us is as young as we used to be;although I still persist in thinking of myself as not old,while I look at others just as young as I and put them down as almost infirm. Is that a sign of conceit,or just a providential state of mind to keep us younger than we really are?

You are correct in thinking that I am about your age,only I am one year in advance of you,which I did not know. Fortunately,I have enjoyed very good health,with the exception of a few weeks in my early ministry in Philadel-phia,when the grippe nearly got me,and a few weeks of nervous callapse in Middletown,Ohio,when the Dayton flood swept through our city and drove us out of the manse and wrought destruction in our church building.

We have been in Southampton for almost ten years and have enjoyed the pastorate very much. As you know, it is a tourist place,-many fine estates and homes,and giving us a summer and a winter world,which are quite distinct, having its advantages and disadvantages for church work.

Yes,my son is in Bryn Mawr,and often runs in to Philadelphia. He is a professional musician,and is now one of the faculty of the Bryn Mawr Conservatory of Music. His specialty is piano,and he also conducts choruses and chor-als. He is much devoted to his profession,but like all musicians,has felt the depression for the last several years.

Mrs. Smith,I regret to say,is suffering with her eyes. She went to Philadelphia and had one eye opera-ted on ,but lost it. The other eye has defective sight,but she hopes to keep it,and does not want to take the risk of another operation.I do much of her reading for her,but she manages to care for her correspondence very well.

Last summer Mrs. Smith,my son and I had a great experience. I exchanged pulpits for five months with

REV. DAVID GARRETT SMITH
MINISTER
PHONE 776

First Presbyterian Church

SOUTHAMPTON
LONG ISLAND
N. Y.

JOHN A. HERRICK
CLERK OF SESSION

a minister of the Kirk of Scotland in Aberdeen. From start to finish it was a great joy; and Mr. Kellas, with whom I made the exchange, reports the same for himself and his wife. Our people here enjoyed his ministry; and I believe on the whole the exchange arrangement was profitable for both churches. It has enlarged our world and added to our list of good friends and our fund of very pleasant memories. I wonder that more churches do not avail themselves of this sort of exchange.

I am sorry to hear that Northminster is falling behind her once good record. I know that there have been many changes in that neighborhood, and some of them not so good for the work of the church. My former elder and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. William Lloyd, who afterward united with Northminster, are still there, as doubtless, you know. We saw them a year ago before we left for Scotland. I think Mrs. Lloyd said she carries a correspondence with Mrs. Robinson.

Mother died 26 years ago, in Syracuse. My sister Janet is still living there in an apartment at 519 Cedar Street. The Howe daughters and Miss Eva King, all members of the Park Central Church, are occupying the apartment above my sister's. The Howes own the house.

My sister is pretty well, and is able to attend to her duties, though she has not been doing any office work for several years. If you have an opportunity to look in on her when you are at the Assembly, she would be so glad to see you.

My elder and myself have been elected as Commissioners to the Assembly from this Presbytery, so I may see you in Syracuse. Mrs. Smith expects to go on to Syracuse with me.

I hear good reports from your son and his work from time to time, and am sure that he is finding a fruitful field in Elizabeth. I had the pleasure just after I returned from the war service of conducting union services among the Presbyterian Churches, for a period of seven weeks. At that time Dr. Chas Campbell was pastor of the First Church. We were fellow presbytery in the Dayton Presbytery.

So glad that Mr. Crutchley is starting his ministry in your Presbytery. You will find him a fine, sincere young man. He was ordained in our church Apr. 29th, and will doubtless be installed at Guilford soon.

Our very kind regards to Mrs. Robinson and yourself.

Cordially yours,

David Garrett Smith

BERTRAND H. SNELL
31ST DISTRICT NEW YORK

Offices of Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

April 25, 1936

Mr. Stewart M. Robinson
Elizabeth
New Jersey

Dear Stewart:

Your telegram relative to the possibility of having your father act as one of the Chaplains of the Republican National Convention duly received.

This is a matter that I do not have anything to do with but it is entirely in the hands of the Committee on Arrangements. I am of the opinion that they have probably already made this selection. If they have not, I would advise you to get in touch with Mr. Daniel Pomeroy, the National Committeeman from the State of New Jersey, who is a member of the Committee on Arrangements and he can give you this information.

If this was a matter in my personal charge I certainly would be very pleased to recognize your father for he has a great many friends in my home town of Potsdam, New York.

With kind regards, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Bert Snell

BHS:E

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

Monday morning

Dear Dr. Robinson:

I want to add just a line in which to thank you for the paper with account of your fathers anniversary - and how lovely that you could give the principal address

You are a wonderful family to have such a record and which bids fair to go down more centuries.

I wish to ask a favor of you the recent number of the Presbyterian contained the best article on the

"Townsend Clan" we have seen but unfortunately the man of the house has given it to some unremembered party and I am wondering if you could secure another copy the exact date of which I cannot tell.

The problem in our church is a very serious one. Just now when Dr. Grant is in deep sorrow it seems cruel to add to his troubles but George has been charitable in his statements

Last Wednesday we attended our Lenten mid-week service and came away not only unsatisfied but almost repelled and if we, who have been his most loyal friends feel that way what can we expect of others.

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

The sick ones in our family are all better. Rufe and Charlie both attended Rotary last week as well as church meeting where, unfortunately A. L. monopolized the conversation.

Sadie is decidedly improved do not see why warm weather should not help if not complete her recovery.

With love to you both

Hastily

Mary Powers.

Mr. O- went to Rochester last Sunday to preach at the twenty fifth anniversary of the church from whence he came

to us and Mr. Sykes of Canton formerly
pastor of St. Law. occupied our pulpit
- a wonderful sermon on John 10-10
He is such a dear old man - Possibly
you know him.

622 EAST GRAVERS LANE
CHESTNUT HILL
PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.

March 18,1936

Rev.W.Courtland Robinson
Delhi, New York

My dear Dr.Robinson -

Thank you for your full and clear letter. I will continue to help the Rev.Mr.Post as far as I can.

I have had some pleasant correspondence with your son since he has been Editor of "The Presbyterian". He knew my boys at College and I think was a Classmate of one of them.

The Presbyterian Church is not now in a very good way,and there is cause for anxiety as to what the General Assembly may be and do. I wish it would repeal the Mandate and set the Machine down hard. But I must stop,no doubt you are weary of the sad modony about the Church,and yet in good times and bad the Church does go on and do good.

Very truly yours,

Charles C. Savage

GEORGE WING SISSON, JR.
POTSDAM, NEW YORK.

Sunday night
March 15/36
10:30 p.m.

Dear Dr. Robinson:

Mary is not feeling so very well - has gone to bed and asked me to write - She is a faithful correspondent as you know -

We have been talking over our Church and Sabbath School problems - which are very real and disturbing - Mary feels that you might be helpful in suggestion.

The fact is that we are going backward in both Church & S.S.

I have talked privately with some forward men (very few) in the endeavor to find their reaction to the trouble - or where the trouble lies - I have stated that it does not always lie in the pulpit but often does lie in the pews.

Dr. Voelker - a splendid man in the Normal - is convinced that

GEORGE WING SISSON, JR.
POTSDAM, NEW YORK.

the situation will never be cured until a change in pastor is made - and I find a similar attitude among others whose opinions I respect.

Our young people from Clarkson and the Normal are flocking to the Methodist and Baptist Churches. Our prayer meetings have but a handful and are no longer prayer meetings but simply another sermon sometimes given in a loud pulpit manner that drives one away rather than draws and attracts.

I am sorry to write like this - I have been one of his staunchest defenders - Brilliant man that he is - he does not get his people hearts and there is to quite some extent an attitude distinctly antagonistic to him - or perhaps, more properly described as not respecting him.

GEORGE WING SISSON, JR.
POTSDAM, NEW YORK.

There is no doubt that a change is indicated as most for the Church, and the longer matters go on as they are the harder the work will be.

It is only within the last year or so that I have been driven (by the cumulative evidence and the attitude of many of our people whose judgment and real interest are worthy deep consideration) to the thought that we need a change.

I am entirely unworthy to make the suggestion — but what this church and its people need is a truly spiritual man to preach the old fashioned Gospel to them — to stand on their midst as one commanding their love & respect. One who, while leading, will use the ability and tact to draw willing workers to him and win them to active participation in the Christ work.

GEORGE WING SISSON, JR.
POTSDAM, NEW YORK.

Can you or I tell what think of or suggest anyone that might well be considered?

Now I am doing this on my own responsibility - I know that other members of the session & trustees privately feel as I have come to feel; but no one knows or will know, until later, that I have voiced the matter outside.

Mary send her love to you both and I add to it all that you will accept.

Yours Your Friend

George Sisson Jr

622 EAST GRAVERS LANE
CHESTNUT HILL
PHILADELPHIA, PENNA.

February 29,1936

Dr.W.Courtland Robinson

My dear Sir:

There appeared in the "Presbyterian,when you were Editor, a notice concerning the Rev.C.B.Post of Clinton, New York, and I think I had a personal letter from you about it.

Since then I have contributed yearly $90. towards the payment of his Pension, and I intend to do so this year again.

I have lately received a letter from him,which I enclose.

Can you tell me anything more about him. Is he blind,or merely defective sight ?

I would like to give him some further help, but hesitate to do so without knowing more about the case.

I regret to trouble you about the matter, and remain,

Very truly yours

Charles C. Savage

My dear Court

I think you have long since given me up. I surely feel very apologetic for not replying to your good letter with its kind words. I am owing more thought I would begin with you. We hope you are keeping comfortably warm this very cold winter. We all seem to be pretty well here. I am alone now in the apartment but Hollis lives over me and Madge beside me across the hall makes

it very pleasant, our old home is made into two family house and is very changed. Mr miss aunt Minnie she was always here of late not being able to go, my family were all very kind to her she said every one was so good to her, I think I always tried to do what I could for her she certainly needed some one to help her and depended on me for most anything, her class she taught so long were very devoted to her sent her flowers cards and all sorts of things - when she could no longer go to them, last summer I thought many times of writing you how feeble she was. but if you were ill yourself you needed no additional troubles hope you continue to improve in health and many thanks for your kind thought to our relationship is the same as when the Stewarts were here dont forget us with kindest regards to you & yours

Margaret Stewart

shall always be glad to hear from you

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

Feb. 2, 1936.

Dear Friends:

Your nice letter was a joy to us, but don't like to hear the Parson say he is of no use to any one. Have you any idea how wide your influence yet is? How many people are reached by the paper for which you write alone? And what you have been to and done for us this year. Does that mean so little?

Mrs. Aunt told me today that they had "such a nice letter from you." It was like you to write them. He is very hard but no one knows what it means to him.

The funeral was according to custom in Ireland.- a service of praise and thanksgiving at the House in the evening. The body remained upstairs and the

choir and people, Mr. Arnt included sang several hymns. The minister from Chippewa conducted the service assisted by Rev. Mr. Erickson of Cawston, and Mr. Arnt gave the closing prayer and benediction.

To us a strange but beautiful service. In the morning Mr. Arnt and his brother alone accompanied the remains to Bayside carrying their own wreaths and no other flowers.

It is a blessed release for she was suffering terribly. The sedatives had long since lost their power. We all hope that their home may be happier after ~~the~~ time has lessened his grief. Here has been a changed man lately - his sermons beautiful.

Rufus is in some ways better. They have an excellent man nurse. Rufe was furious when he came but in a few hours

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

was visiting happily with him. He demands a great deal of May and it is hard to get away from him.

Ruth makes me feel badly for his fond of her. Wish some good man would appear from somewhere and take her but she is using the wrong bait. Inclined to be blasé. She has finished her business course and has just entered the Motor Sales Office for experience.

Charlie is better but drags one foot, has not been out since Thanksgiving Day.

Sadie was persuaded against her will to go to the Movies on Thursday but it was the wrong film and she came home and went to bed when she has remained.

They had the doctor from Ogdensburg

to see her recently who assures us she is coming out of it in time.

Many things contribute to keeping her back notably Barbara who is not sympathetic, but ~~she~~ is in New York now with Margaret.

Francis, who should have graduated at Christmas did not make his work and had to return to S. Carolina.

Her sister and Dr. Whipple after sending her away last summer have not been like.

The house is too big and altogether things seem to be hard. She is, as Dr. Grant says, "the finest woman in Oldham" and we all long to see her herself again.

Frank would send her anywhere but she will go only to the ~~place~~ retreat where she was last summer but she told someone she "would never come back".

She appears better when working about the house but she is weak and very thin.

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

We, too, are having seven weather but on the whole, bright and sunny. The roads have been icy for a month. I haven't driven and miss my independence.

George has been home much more which makes me happy.

We enjoy your letters so much, hope for more.

With much love to you both.

Mary Hennes.

So glad Mrs. Stewart is having such a real vacation. She is worth it.

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

Dec. 29, 1935.

Dear Robinsons:

Many thanks for the lovely telegram and for the letter which followed.

We had a quiet but happy Christmas. Meavis's family were unable to join us and Inez, George's wife was in the hospital recovering from a major operation (gall bladder and appendix) but the rest were present.

Apropos of Inez's operation, her small son went to school and entertained his friends with vivid descriptions especially of "stitches", and

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

when said youngsters were incredulous appeared at the hospital with his gang demanding a demonstration!

Rufus is not very good these days and poor Mary has her heart and hands full. Today he insists he is going to Florida.

Charlie, who has been in the house since Thanksgiving - at first a very sick man and a C. S. healer is still in attendance. He came down stairs for the first time yesterday. C. S. is triumphant but his brothers worry.

Grace had expected to go South but hesitates when her brothers are so ill.

Ruth is hard - has completed her business course which compelled

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

her driving to Ogdensburg and back every day. She goes into the Motor Sales Office for experience.

Mrs. Peet grows more and more retiring and more sensitive over her deafness.

Sadie seems sometimes more like herself - went with Francis after much effort to church and sat in the gallery to hear the Christmas music. She has built a wall about herself which few people penetrate. She is always cordial when I go in but shrinks from meeting outsiders. Francis is home now and hope that will cheer her.

We enjoy the Cactus Meeditations in the Presbyterian and look forward to

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

them from week to week.

The Orrs are going through deep waters. His mother is a terrible sufferer and has not worn the medicine of which sedatives they are giving the limit. Poor man, he has gotten where he would rather see her at rest than to suffer more. He seems to bear up - at least he has given some wonderful sermons since his illness.

This seems to be a letter of illness. We have so much to be thankful for.

Write again when you have time. With much love to you both and every good wish for a Happy New Year

I am sincerely yours

Mary He—

over

Dear Friends –

The sun is shining – and the world is still good – Mary and I spend our evenings together before the fireplace and are happier than <u>before</u>.

She is wonderful – takes care of everybody but herself – Christmas details for all the children of our several farm men and used her strength and nerves to the limit – She is a <u>good woman</u> no one knows it <u>better than I</u>.

<u>George</u>

P.S. I found this letter unsealed and took the liberty of adding this line.

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Created by Norman Rockwell

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HO POTSDAM 516P DEC 25 1935

REV DR AND MRS W C ROBINSON

YOUR GREETING ADDED MUCH TO A HAPPY DAY WE RETURN IT IN FULL MEASURE

GEORGE AND MARY

555P

Dr. William S. Sykes
1204 Medical Arts Bldg.
Cleveland, Ohio
December 10, 1935.

Dear Doctor Robinson:—

I am taking the liberty of addressing you again about a matter which not only concerns myself but far more than that, the vital spiritual life of one of our Presbyterian Churches and in particular its immediate future and its further future usefulness in the greater work of the Kingdom.

While you were yet the active Editor of The Presbyterian, I wrote to you concerning the conditions which then obtained in this same Church, South Church, in Cleveland, particularly as it related to the man who then, as now, was the pastor. I received a very kind and courteous reply for which I was very grateful. Later, you devoted an editorial to the matter in which, among other things, you said that if such conditions obtained, "I would not feel like entrusting such a man with the job of night watchman of a deserted mill." And I heartily agreed with you.

These same problems have continued to vex us, only in a more agravated form, during the years that have followed until now we feel that we are approaching a crisis. I am of the opinion that we have been exceedingly patient, in view of the fact that as a result of this cumulative experience we have lost some of our most valued leaders and officers and of course supporters — — their contributions aggregating close to a thousand dollars per year, which in these times a Church cannot afford to lose. This must not go on or we shall find ourselves in a position where another pastor will find it very difficult, if not impossible, to salvage anything from the wreck, or we continue the parish work as a going concern.

2)

Dr. William S. Sykes
1204 Medical Arts Bldg.
Cleveland, Ohio

We have protested the situation but all to no avail and have hesitated to take the rather unchristian attitude of asking for the man's resignation. He however, we are about resolved to do this, much as we regret its necessity. We have conferred with the Moderator of Presbytery and with the Superintendent of our work in the Presbytery, and others, and all sense the gravity of the situation and the imperative need for the contemplated move. He however, the one most vitally concerned stands pat and up to the present, has refused to resign saying that there isn't another man who can carry on the work as well or better than he. "Can you beat it?"

His latest move has been an effort to dispose of the church property to a congregation of Syrian Christ Roman Catholics. This idea is that in any event will be preached and he quotes St. Paul in the familiar situation as related in one of the Epistles. We have succeeded fully blocked that move and to do so, some of us had to be pretty out-spoken. Some months ago, I asked the privilege of a few moments at a morning service to present the excellent qualities of "The Presbyterian", but was ignored. In making the request, I said to him," I think that "The Presbyterian" is the best of our Church papers and more nearly represents the mind of the average communicant member than any of the others; that it is more loyal to the Church and what it has stood for historically and while not radically "Fundamental" it stands four-square for all that is basically and fundamentally Christian and Presbyterian; I think that our people should know about it and have an opportunity to subscribe for and read it". His reply was," Is that so? Well, that's just your opinion". — I did not press the matter further.

Now, "when, as and if", the relation is terminated we want to be sure of ourselves in calling another

(3)

Dr. William S. Sykes
1204 Medical Arts Bldg.
Cleveland, Ohio

pastor that we do not make the mistake of calling a similar man -- if there be such a one. We want to feel, both divinely and humanly guided when we make our choice. It is to that end that I am writing in such detail to you. We shall desire one who does not have the qualities which we have had to endure for nearly ten years. We shall need a pastor who is "sound in the faith once-for-all delivered" and "most surely believed among us" and who knows the certainty of those things wherein he has been instructed." One who still believes whole-heartedly in the efficacy of the shed-blood of our Lord Jesus Christ as the one and only means of salvation for both this world and that to come and in the truthfulness and reliability of the one Book which reveals this fact and all of the other essential, fundamental truths of our common Christian faith; who is enthusiastic in his support of the great Missionary task of the Church and a man who loves folks, as such, and feels his responsibility for winning them to the Saviour and in shepherding them and feeding them with real spiritual food. A man of prayer, one who knows his way about in the secret places of the Most High and who can inspire this same spirit in others, both young and old, by his sincere personality and his fervent, intellectual public addresses. One who can lead them and introduce them to the one and only Saviour, naturally and humanly with cant, and secure their acceptance of Him and His way of life. One whose life rings true to his teaching and preaching; whose personal habits are beyond question and who can safely be followed by our young people; in other words "an example to the flock over which the Lord hath made him an over-seer or shepherd."

Perhaps that is asking for a super-man or one beyond our poor powers to properly re-imburse.

(4)

Dr. William S. Sykes
1204 Medical Arts Bldg.
Cleveland, Ohio

And yet ——— Are these not the qualities of mind and heart which every true spiritual shepherd should possess or be in the process of acquiring?

South Church, at one time, was spiritually alive to the great missionary work of the church but nearly ten "silent years" have had the effect of dulling this fervor among many members of the Congregation. That is what a leader can do! Some of us have kept this spirit alive in the Sabbath school and among the Young People and tried to fan the dying embers among the older ones; at least that has been our earnest endeavor.

The problem uppermost, it seems, in the mind of our Pastor has been that of our local church finances while some of us still believe with Jesus that, "he that loseth his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall find it"; and that the Church which diligently gives itself to the task of spreading the good news of the Kingdom, at home and abroad, will not want any good thing.

The questioning of The Book, and a continual hammering on the theme of "the scientific spirit" and "the search for Truth elsewhere as well as in the Bible", gets tiresome after a while and is not soul-satisfying, especially where the speaker's inspiration comes largely from articles and editorials culled from "The Christian Century". Can you wonder, Dr. Robinson, that we have tolerated this so long and so patiently?

In all that I have written, I do not mean to reflect on the personal habits or Christian character of the one under discussion. In all this, he is above reproach. In other things, I feel free to point out where there is a lack.

Now, Sir, my object in writing at such great length in this vein is not alone to inform you of a set of circumstances which exists but to ask you if, perchance

(5)

Dr. William S. Sykes
1204 Medical Arts Bldg.
Cleveland, Ohio

in your wide acquaintance you might know of some one who ~~could~~ you could suggest and who we might approach, when the way is clear, as a possible successor to the one who now serves us as pastor. You know something of the situation and I have such confidence in your Christian character and judgement that I feel that I can make this appeal to you and you know from my letter the type of minister we need.

During the past forty years, we have had, I think, six men who have served us in the pastorate, most of them older men. Our present pastor is 71. Our young people, I feel, desire a younger man while some of us think that tried experience is a valuable asset. The field is a difficult one; a changing population and a membership scattered and disheartened but for the most part loyal, doesn't make the work easy. But who, with red-blood and a consecrated spirit, wants an easy job? I am fully persuaded that a man of the spiritual and intellectual type I have indicated, who has an abundance of physical and mental energy and is not afraid to expend them, could rally our scattered forces, set an objective, lead us in an attack upon it and help us in securing and consolidating a victory. I do so wish that you could assist us in this task which is before us.

Perhaps you know, or at least Dr. Stewart Robinson knows Cleveland Presbytery and I am fearful that the type of man which our Presbyterial leaders might recommend would be the type we do <u>not</u> need, at present,—if you know what I mean. I am praying that God may suggest to you just the man whom <u>He</u> knows we need and what work He can wisely bless. In closing, permit me to thank you, Dr. Robinson, for listening so patiently to this lengthy plea of mine and for any response which you may be guided to make.

Very sincerely yours,

William S. Sykes.

1239 REMINGTON ROAD
WYNNEWOOD, PA.

July 12th, 1935

Dear Dr and Mrs Robinson

So glad to have your letter. To know that Dr Robinson is well again, and Mrs Robinson in such marvelous health. Wish I too could "skip around like a young girl" however I am in very good shape for me.

My fine news is that Lewis is a well man again

seems perfectly so, has been back in business two months now. Business is in good shape now so our black clouds of the Winter are behind us, I know you will rejoice with us and praise God for it all.

We had a lovely month in Emily's home, they were all so very good to Laird and me, and you can imagine as well as anyone what it meant to us Sisters to be together again.

We found Emretta and

1239 REMINGTON ROAD
WYNNEWOOD, PA.

Laird Jr. in fine shape on our return. Virginia had proven a marvelous Aunt to them. She is a most unusual woman and her love to us all is one of our dear treasures.

Our two dear children (if you excuse a Mother's praise) are indeed as ever a great joy & comfort to us. Eunice next Fall a Senior at Bryn Mawr and doing very creditable work

David graduated from High School in June and we hope is going to Haverford College in the Fall, he has to tutor in one College Board (Math) and take it again in the Fall, but they are saving a place for him and we are expecting him to make good. He is now at Denmark, Maine in Camp Wenona where he was last year.

Cecelia is head lady Councelor at Camp Pomonoca, Pocono Manor where they spent their childhood days.

1239 REMINGTON ROAD
WYNNEWOOD, PA.

We are lonely without them, but happy together, and feel what they are doing is best for them.

Virginia and family also Horace's family are at Tobyhanna as usual.

I will share your letter with Virginia, don't feel you must answer I just wanted you to know that David is well. I also wanted to tell

you that the last Sunday in June we took the step. We four took our letters to Ardmore Presbyterian church joining there that Sunday. It is hard to realize. It pulled heart strings, but we are very happy in the change. There were many changes in Northminster, we were far away etc. Our new minister Mr Allen Frew gives most helpful Spiritual food which we all need.

It is nice to hear of Stewart's family, remember us to them.

Our love to you two Amelia A. Simon

Hillview Farm
Potsdam, N.Y.

Monday.

As George has written you, we had a talk last night in which he told me the true name of the party and of the journey to Washington - more than I thought he could do.

I can see he still cares for her and cannot expect him to do otherwise at once.

She, Mrs. Grace Hearden, has been at the head of the registration dept. of the K. J. C. C. for sixteen years but his especial interest, according to his word,

has been of only two years duration.

I have no feeling of vindictiveness toward her for I think he is far more to blame than she.

If he only will keep away from the office - but there I go again. Had another sleepless night - am going to Dr. Grant's now for a sedative - then to Missionary meeting - Praise and thanksgiving. I have much of the latter and will try to forget.

Hastily

M. H. S.

Write again when time permits - to keep up my morale.

Did not see Georgie's letter

Hillview Farm
Potsdam, N.Y.

Nov. 3, 1935

Dear Mr. Robinson:

Thank you so much for the very kind letter and for the visit. You have no idea how much it meant to me at just this time.

You carry so many people's burdens - We wonder you broke under this weight and then to add mine! You have been a wonderful friend to us both. What would I have done without you!

I am so sorry your stay could not have been pleasanter by the presence of some old friends, but

do not underestimate your labor at the church. So many people have spoken of your sermons - many of them people you do not know.

Today the choir numbered fifteen so, you see, they are drifting back.

Mr. Grant is happy to be at work again and his sermons show that he has done some thinking in his enforced absence. Prayermeetings are better attended though there is still room, but he appreciates the increase. He gets very tired and was glad to sit during the singing of the last hymn today.

On the 25th George went to Grandline as host to two new men. He put it up to me but I thought the freedom from all business cares

There were thirty men in all

would be good for him, also for both of us to meditate. Our 45th anniversary was the 26th and he remained until the following Wednesday.

Since his return he has been kinder to me than he has been for many, many years and I certainly appreciate it and he must know it.

Your letter came just as he was leaving so he has waited for a quiet hour to reply.

I have let Mrs. White go and we enjoy being without her. He takes me out two or three times in the week for dinner also to ride and an occasional movie and as Pete has time now for the heavy work we are getting along as well as before.

If my tangled affairs are unravelled

we will have you, our very dear friend, under God, to thank for it.

I realize that "I have been to blame and am trying to correct my faults which are many. That is easy when he gives me so much his care.

I dread his next New York trip knowing that he cannot take me every time.

I owe Sister A. B. a letter which I will write later.

With very much love to you both

Sincerely & gratefully

Mary Hewes.

I have thought of you today preaching in your Delhi church. Know you must have had an appreciative audience

GEORGE WING SISSON, JR.
POTSDAM, NEW YORK.

Nov 3, 1935

My Dear Dr. Robinson:

Your letter came just as I was starting to the woods. I took it with me and have read and pondered it carefully. You are absolutely right about Mary. None are really finer than she — more devoted to the truth or devoted to their friends and family.

I have told Mary all the truth — name — residence — identity &c &c — I have taken the blame, which is really much more mine than the persons — & Mary, with all the facts now before her, now agrees that is so.

We are doing things together now — riding afternoons & Saturdays — going to entertainments together and really feeling closer together than we have for years.

She will go with me, when I am on necessary trips — whenever she can — and says herself that she should have done so more in the past when I have asked her and she preferred to stick at home — for you know

GEORGE WING SISSON, JR.
POTSDAM, NEW YORK.

how she hesitated to leave the place even for a short time.

As to the business & my own affairs — the latter are simply how to gradually pay off the debts in the Barker Weed loss — it is, and has been a terrible load and has kept us from enjoying some things & travel together that we might have had — Trips to Europe would have cost a "drop in the bucket" compared to it.

As to company affairs Aunt Grace & the boys who have practically dropped out — R.L.S., C.H.S. &c. — are sometimes critical — though they & Grace know very well that the planning and large matters in the past have been [illegible] by me.

The young men in Salts end do need counsel (which is hard to give to some of them or have them take it) Of course, at 73, we are inclined to let up a little, or rather let things "slide along" — I have caught that inclination in myself. You have been a great help — I am now glad the thing came out. It was a shock to me as well as Mary & you, dear friend — but the promise of better things is here with us and may it prove true.

With kindest regards and thanks always —
George

Wednesday Evening

Dear Court:-

I thought I should write you concerning Aunt Minnie's death etc. I spent $5.00 for your flowers, but asked the florist to send the bill direct to you, and you may expect it. Your flowers were red roses, and the girls placed them in the room as soon as I received your wire.

She has been consistently failing all Summer, but got out only a little. Two weeks ago she attended her class, in which she was so interested. Has had a ravenous appetite right up to the end, which no doubt kept her going so long. Last Saturday she had a sinking spell but rallied on Sunday in response to medicine. Her heart beat was very hard and thumped. Monday she ate a big dinner at noon, and went to the bathroom in the afternoon. She had difficulty in breathing and sat on the edge of the bed having her supper, when she said she could

(at 6:30 Monday eve.

not finish it - and just leaned back dead. Had only missed two days in being up and dressed. She knew she would not live long but never made a complaint - being satisfied and, in fact wanted to go.

The funeral was this P.M. in the chapel at our beautiful church. It seemed to all a particularly suitable place for it - as she was so devout and worked there so long. Jamie R. drove her own car up from Cambridge. There were many flowers and all her friends were there. We buried in my lot in our city owned cemetery - as she told me some years ago she preferred that to Salem.

Requiescat in pace -

Sincerely,
Harris

She was born in June 1856, and was therefore 79 years old -

CABLE ADDRESS · HOCHELSEA · NEW YORK

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HOTEL CHELSEA
New York

WEST TWENTY THIRD STREET
AT SEVENTH AVENUE
UNDER KNOTT MANAGEMENT

Sept. 6. 1935.

My Own Darling Sweetheart.

School is out. I am going to the country and I think the weather is going to be grand. I intend to enjoy the air and the beans and corn. I wish you were going with me. There is a good comfortable bed that I know one or two can sleep in.

This has been a great week. All the way from being happy to being treated as I never have experienced before. However,

Steel. I am rather sorry that I [illegible]
you with my annoyances. I always regret
it when you are gone and I am alone.
Thats because I love you. You are a
great sport. I wonder if you had a nickel
when you reached home! Do you love me,
and would you love to [illegible] close.
Write me Honey Boy Your Green

CABLE ADDRESS: 'THEROSVELT' NEW YORK TELEPHONE VANDERBILT 3-9200

THE ROOSEVELT

MADISON AVENUE AT 45TH STREET

NEW YORK

BERNAM G. HINES, MANAGER

Oct. 6, 1935

Dear Mr. Robinson:

We are very glad indeed that you are to preach for us and shall look forward to seeing you on Friday.

I have hesitated to ask you to stay at the farm much as we desire it for the not very good company but if you can take a chance on it, I will try not to cast a gloom over what is to the Rotsdam church such a pleasure.

I am extremely sorry to say that George has to leave for St Louis on Friday night to be gone until the following week Sunday the 20th.

He is giving me a very lovely time here though I know not how much it costs him

IN THE UNITED HOTELS SYSTEM

NEW YORK CITY, N.Y. THE ROOSEVELT
PHILADELPHIA, PA. THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
SEATTLE, WASH. THE OLYMPIC
BOSTON, MASS. THE BRADFORD
NEWARK, N.J. THE ROBERT TREAT
PATERSON, N.J. THE ALEXANDER HAMILTON
HARRISBURG, PA. THE PENN-HARRIS
ALBANY, N.Y. THE TEN EYCK
SYRACUSE, N.Y. THE ONONDAGA
ROCHESTER, N.Y. THE SENECA
NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. THE NIAGARA
ERIE, PA THE LAWRENCE
AKRON, OHIO. THE PORTAGE
FLINT, MICH. THE DURANT
TUCSON, ARIZ. EL CONQUISTADOR
IN CANADA
TORONTO KING EDWARD HOTEL
WINDSOR THE PRINCE EDWARD

CABLE ADDRESS: 'THEROSVELT' NEW YORK TELEPHONE VANDERBILT 3-9200

BERNAM G. HINES, MANAGER

THE ROOSEVELT

MADISON AVENUE AT 45TH STREET

NEW YORK

in regrets. I dread to have him start out to the Cattle club office in the morning.

Incidentally, that letter was bluff, written at his request; and signed by a fictitious name. She is employed or has been in their office.

I am hoping that he is sincere but have told him there can be nothing like perfect understanding without entire frankness. I am ready to meet him more than half way but will tolerate no deceit. He had forgotten that one letter contained references to people in the office.

Will try not to trouble you further but after sending the letter thought you might as well know the rest.

Can't Sis Rob be persuaded to come?

With much love to you both.

Mary

May and Grace are here attending D.A.R. Convention remaining another week. We go Wednesday or Thursday ~~arriving home~~

We heard Dr. Merrill this morning from the text "They will be done" such a wonderful sermon.

IN THE HOTELS SYSTEM

NEW YORK, CITY, N.Y. THE ROOSEVELT
PHILADELPHIA, PA. THE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN
SEATTLE, WASH. THE OLYMPIC
BOSTON, MASS. THE BRADFORD
NEWARK, N.J. THE ROBERT TREAT
PATERSON, N.J. THE ALEXANDER HAMILTON
HARRISBURG, PA. THE PENN-HARRIS
ALBANY, N.Y. THE TEN EYCK
SYRACUSE, N.Y. THE ONONDAGA
ROCHESTER, N.Y. THE SENECA
NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. THE NIAGARA
ERIE, PA THE LAWRENCE
AKRON, OHIO. THE PORTAGE
FLINT, MICH. THE DURANT
TUCSON, ARIZ. EL CONQUISTADOR
IN CANADA
TORONTO KING EDWARD HOTEL
WINDSOR THE PRINCE EDWARD

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

Sept. 18, 1935.

Dear Mr. Robinson:

It was such a delight to be with you people in your home and to see your lovely country and I'm so sorry that we had to burden you with our troubles but there is no earthly friend to which I could turn and the shock and burden was too great for me. In a way it seems to me Providential for I am convinced that nothing else short of a tragedy would bring George to his senses and I think for the time being at least he shows a bit of the manner which has me in its grip. How permanent it will be remains

to be seen. The only thing seems to be that he realizes that before many years he will have to be judged before a higher bar.

Here is a moral weakling and atavist it: He is Dr. Jekyl and Mr. Hyde. Like the small animal which changes color with its surroundings.

You brought out what was best in him but you will recall that both his mother and I opposed his being elected to the sacred Office in the church which he has disgraced.

Three times at least I have been through this and each time he has promised as he has to you.

For three years I have trusted him then comes lightning out of a clear sky. He went to Albany and Syracuse

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

last night and I am alone to think things out and have come to the conclusion that as you seem to be our Father Confessor, to tell you more, for there comes a time when one must have some human confidant or go mad.

How much he had been guilty of before I found the telegram appointing a meeting with Miss C. Marty in a Boston hotel I do not know - that was in 1910 and lasted till 1918 and cost him a thousand dollars to fight a case of blackmail.

Then there was Eva Bostock a bright girl younger than Stanley who taught our district school and whom he used to drive home in the afternoon. He

put her through Hebany teachers college and secured for her the position which she now occupies - head of a million dollar school at White Plains. She "paid him back" and it was only about three years ago that the affair came to an end with my threat to her of exposing them to her board of education if she did not absolutely cease to meet him in N.Y. or elsewhere - meaning week-end trips and rides from here into Adirondacks.

I had thought recently that his wanderings had ceased when this came up.

In between and coincident with these was his stenographer who wrote him when he was in Europe that she was turning him down for a younger man. People at the mill had a pretty good guess about that.

I am enclosing two letters which I would like you to read and destroy.

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

I have several more if I decide to use them. He says the relations were purely altruistic and idealistic but in the whole letter there wasn't a single worth-while sentence, nor one decent thought. It was all sex.

She spent her vacation in the west returning the last of August when he took her to Washington for the week end remaining over Sept. 2 which is Sawbys and my birthday. He hasn't taken me to Washington since Marion was a baby. Because of his financial state which is alarming, I have cut all corners - have done my own housework including laundry for nearly two years - have not been to New York in three years and you can understand why I

was not encouraged so to do.

How many times should a person forgive? The "seventy seven" mark of Christ has been passed long ago.

Just now he is ashamed and sorry but I cannot be convinced that he will not fall the first time he meets this or some other susceptible female. Bathing beaches are fine working grounds for Satan.

For the sake of the children for his family, for the church and his place in the community and his reputation through a large part of the country, I should doubtless do as you recommend. Keep up the farce for the short time left me. This has taken the five years possibly allotted me, ~~possibly~~. I'm pretty shaky. Only the remembrance of a godly

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

parentage keeps me going.

Please forgive this outpouring. I will not repeat the offence. It is wonderful to have someone to whom we can take our woes. Just yet, I cannot pray.

Very sincerely
Mary Hewes

Unfortunately, I still care for the future of my children.

Sorry to say Sadie is not so well. It is tragic.

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HOTEL CHELSEA
New York

WEST TWENTY THIRD STREET
AT SEVENTH AVENUE
UNDER KNOTT MANAGEMENT

In my Hotel.

My Own Sweetheart.

I am sorry to find that I must write you this hurried note. Your lovely wonderful letter written Sat. made me feel that I must answer in the same spirit and I have waited thinking I would find a time when I wasn't tired and alone to do as I pictured you Sat. thinking and dreaming of our lovely times together and the wonderful realization that somewhere some one really loves us.

Yes Sweetheart I am ready to spend the week end in any way you say, the only thing I must insist on is rest and relaxation. I think Asbury the best place I know for that

So you come to the city and we will make our plans after you reach here. I love you and know that I do, I would give anything to be with you in Syracuse with nothing to think about but "us" until next Tues. Oh Boy.

I am closing Honey Boy, loving you and only asking that you love me

Your Own
Grace.

September 16, 1935.

Mrs. John A. Smith,
3 Roosevelt Avenue,
Cranford, New Jersey.

Dear Mrs. Smith:

Your letter came to me a few days ago, and I am grateful that you remembered me and gave information.

I remember, so well, when I married you in Mrs. Fox's home, and I believe it was a sound and wholesome marriage, and I had great respect for your husband. I think I wrote you at his death.

I am exceedingly distressed that you have had another serious loss, in the death of your son. I am surprised that he was buried at Walton, for, had I known, I certainly would have gone down to be present at the interment. Please understand that Mrs. Robinson and I, who recall you very well, extend our deepest sympathy.

I am glad that you still have your daughter and her little daughter, knowing that they will comfort you in your great afflictions.

I am very proud of the fact that Dickson Fox was one of the boys which I had under my guidance for some five or six years. They were a fine lot, as a whole. Dickson has been the preeminent one in his later life, and has attained a very high and honorable position. I wrote him a letter some time ago, before he was elected to Union College, but have had no reply, and have not presumed to write him in his new place. I have heard concerning him, from some of his friends, and understand he is meeting the situation excellently.

We had Mr. and Mrs. George W. Sisson with us yesterday, staying the week-end. We talked of Dickson Fox, along with other Potsdam people. We thought of many people, and he and his wife, whom I understand is very charming, used to be visitors at Potsdam and were often at the Sisson home. If you communicate with him, I would be glad to have you tell him that I still retain deep interest. I think, so often, how proud his mother would be. Her Dickson was the idol and treasure of her life. She was a most excellent woman. She commanded the respect of all who knew her. She was very active in our Church, and I counted her one of our best. I was very much pleased, when Mrs. Sisson told me that Dickson honors her memory very much, indeed. Well he may, for I have no doubt that she had a tremendous influence in bringing him into the manhood which he has shown.

I hope your future will not be too much darkened by your great afflictions. I can well understand why losing such a

husband and your only son would almost crush the spirit.

Mrs. Robinson and I took pleasure, also, in your words concerning Stewart. We are going to send the letter to him. I know he will be pleased. We are proud of him, not only for his ability, which I think is great, and his beautiful devotion to his parents and his wife and five children, all showing greatest love and respect to us both, but also for the fact that I believe he is a man loyal to God and God's Word, and endeavoring to establish the Kingdom of God on earth. That is the great object of life. I think he endeavors to fulfill it to the uttermost.

I am in much better health than a year ago, but I have not gotten into regular and active work again, to my regret. I am reaching the time when I can not expect to do full work. I will be seventy at my next birthday, and, because of illness, am, perhaps, older than some are at my age. Nevertheless, I have fine spirit and am improving all the time.

Doctor Prout, the pastor at Potsdam, is in Montreal, with a malady which I think they do not completely understand. The prospect is that he will be absent for several weeks. Mr. Sisson told me that I would be asked to come up and supply the old Church some Sundays this fall. I will go most gladly, if I do not have conflicting dates. We had a little visit there in June, found many people who greeted us thirty-nine years ago, and it was remarkable--the warmth and cordiality of our reception. It was one of the high-spots of joy, that Mrs. Robinson and I have had. Ours has been a very happy life, free from great sorrows and affliction; our son has gratified us much, and our affairs have been running very smoothly. We have every reason to be thankful to God for His Providence as it has come to us.

Accept our warm regard, offer the same to your daughter and remember the little granddaughter. I prize your letter, very much.

Yours very sincerely,

WCR/RW

THE RACQUETTE RIVER PAPER COMPANY

POTSDAM, NEW YORK

MANUFACTURERS OF
"TREE TO TRADE"
PAPERS

TELEPHONES
MANUFACTURING DEPT. 341
SALES DEPT. 617

October 1, 1935

Rev. W. Cortland Robinson, D. D.
Delhi
N. Y.

My dear Mr. Robinson:

The young man, Mr. Mathews, who has been supplying our pulpit, must go to his own charge, leaving here next Thursday, October 10th.

Mr. Prout will not be able to occupy his pulpit until the 27th, thus leaving October 13th and October 20th which we would like to have you supply. I talked this over with Mr. Cubley last evening and we would very much like to have you with us if you can arrange to get away.

Mary and I go to New York together Friday night to spend a few days. There is a D. A. R. convention which Grace and May are also attending. We all hope that you can arrange to be with us on the dates mentioned and await your reply with interest.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

George W. Sisson, Jr.

GWSJr/PS

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

Sept. 6, 1935

Dear People:

Thank you both so much for your kind invitations and after the Parson's telegram offering a personally conducted trip from Utica it seemed that I must go though I had planned to go via Herkimer and Ashland.

After due consideration and prying consent from George to remain at home in my absence I decided that I could leave four days off - packed my bag and had my trusty little Cleevie looked over for the trip and went to bed with visions

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

of a glorious short vacation.

Alas! I had to be sick in the night — one of my disgusting old liver attacks — so it was all off for the time being, and I am about to have an interview with Dr. Grant.

Next week my husband has issued a raw invitation to attend a Conservation meeting at Lake Placid which I have accepted. Later in the month I shall try to have a few days in which to see Marion and to have the long-looked-forward to pleasure of seeing you, provided you are to be at home and it is perfectly convenient. In case it isn't or you have other guests, I am sure you will

MRS. GEORGE W. SISSON, JR.
HILLVIEW FARM
POTSDAM, N. Y.

be frank enough to tell me so.

Mr. Brent is in Montreal again with a light case of typhoid or its full cousin under another name. It is a very sad complication with his mother as ill.

We had secretly hoped that it might be possible to have Carson Rob, but it seems the committee have secured some young fellow from Auburn, which I think we have been here about. Sorry George was in Washington at the time.

Hoping your invitation may hold good for a later date (and I love October)

I am yours with love

Mary Lowes —

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JACKSON WHEATLEY

September 4, 1935

Rev. W. Courtland Robinson, D. D.,
Delhi, New York.

Dear Dr. Robinson:

I am returning herewith the official notice from the Philadelphia Record with reference to the Philadelphia Company for Guaranteeing Mortgages, which accompanied your inquiry of the second instant.

I assume your interest in the Philadelphia Company is represented by stock ownership and not by bonds or participation certificates secured upon any one of the twelve properties listed in the notice. If this is so, then there is nothing you need to do in connection with the matters referred to in this notice. It simply means that the Philadelphia Company, which has been Trustee under the several bond issues referred to in the notice is resigning from its office as Trustee and asking the Court to appoint a Substituted Trustee.

I only know generally about the program of reorganization of the Philadelphia Company. I have had occasion to look into it at various points on behalf of other clients at various times. I do feel qualified, however, to say that in all probabilities your interest as a stockholder will be best served by doing precisely the thing you have been doing, namely, going along with the reorganization along the lines which have been worked out by the several committees.

I am indeed sorry that you have been obliged to suffer such

substantial financial reverses. The Robinsons live long, and accordingly I anticipate you will live to see some considerable salvage from some of the things which you now regard as lost.

Please give my kindest regards to Mrs. Robinson.

Very cordially yours,

Enc.

JFS:S

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
GOUVERNEUR, N. Y.

JOSEPH A. SCHOFIELD, JR.
PASTOR

July 11, 1935

Dear Dr. Robinson,

Andy, Mary, Lew and Lem were, all four, delighted to get your good letter the other day, after your return to Delhi. It was good to see you both and also splendid to have the extra visit from the Doctor here in Gouverneur. We appreciated it very much. The party at Simsons was most delightful and we enjoyed it to the full.

Mother Lewis has been writing us about exciting times in Delhi. We trust the floods did not reach as high as Cherry Hill. Mother Lewis was most fortunate. Mary has talked to her twice on the phone and she has sent us a number of letters, having written a running account on the whole performance, writing a little every few hours, beginning with 1.00 a.m. Sunday morning. That has enabled us to share something of the excitement. The Lewills came in here Tuesday morning all excitement about their store. We persuaded him to telephone from our house direct to the store. We did so and was much relieved and satisfied that he then really knew conditions.

You will be interested to know that I have sent in my resignation from the Independent Board. I still think conditions in the Church are not exactly hopeful. Surely the Conservatives are taking a back seat and the Liberals are in the saddle. But the Independent Board did not seem to be the rallying center that we need if we are ever to rehabilitate the Church for the Confession and the Constitution!

Dr. Craig writes me that negotiations are going on looking toward a possible merger of the Presbyterian with Christianity Today. We wish to look often to your friend James Shrader for advice, for he frequently quotes him.

Again, let me say how nice it was to see you and how really honored and pleased we were to be included in the anniversary party at Potsdam.

Give our love to all the family. We hope you are having some of the children with you this summer.

We are fine. We celebrated Mary's birthday in Canton one night this week, with dinner at the big hotel there and with movies afterward. We are looking for Aunt Jane and for my Mother some time in August.

Love to you all,

Andy

March 17th 1935

ON BOARD S.S. California

Dear Dr & Mrs Robinson

I have wondered often times about you and how you are now?

We have been through a real siege. Through Nov. & Dec. Laird went through financial anxieties and business worries and finally the long strain which he has

been under for several years came to a climax the first of the year in a bad nervous break-down. The anxiety was great, but again our dear Heavenly Father has been very very good to us. Lord
spent six weeks in Bryn Mawr Hospital under a very fine nerve specalist, then ten days at home, and now we are off for two months. Sailed March 9th. expect to return home May 17th. We'll spend two weeks on this voyage then two weeks in Southern

California, visit Emily for the month of April (you know what that will mean to Emily and me) then home by way of Grand Canyon & Denver.

We have good reports from business. The children are in the best of care, Laird Jr with Virginia and Emetta at college, so we trust all will go well and Laird will return a perfectly well man, and that I may have strength for all the trip and to carry out my part. Pray for us.

Laid seems so well
now we feel we are off on
a second honey-moon
twenty-one years after.
We are trying to forget the
cause of our trip, look only
only the bright side and
get all possible good from
it.

Tomorrow would be
Father's & Mother's 61st Wedding
anniversary.

Virginia has been
so very good to us. She is
indeed a wonderful woman
and a very very dear Sister

Hoping this finds Dr
Robinson in much better health
and Mrs Robinson and Stewart's family
well. Lovingly Amelia A. Simon

95 Rowley St
June 12 - '35

Dear Comrade:

Don't fall over when you get this. It is something I have promised myself to do for a long time. But when I read you were a Commissioner to the Gen Assem. And farther and more astounding, read that you led that Assem in prayer! I just wondered if some miracle had happened. Well my dear old boy - not so old - you just can't imagine how it rejoiced me. And I just couldn't help sitting down and sending my note of thanksgiving. Any one who can travel to Cincinnati and bear the burden of a Commissioner for eight days in succession is not an invalid. And must be perfectly able to take a trip up into the north Country

which is so full of devoted friends.
What about it? Wish I could promise
more in the way of doing some little
part of reviving old joys. I do not
seem to be so good on the Camel-back
as you, The heart wear out at Watertown
hasn't been able to get my heart up
out of the forties for two weeks and
Kate Caught it at 33 one morning be-
fore I got up. But why switch-off
on to this drab note after the cheerful
one with which I started out, Better
quit. Andy says he is going to resign
from Independent Board.
How is the good Mifs?
We stopped on way home Palm Sunday
in Washington, They seem to be very fond
of Robert, Easter we were with Sherman,
In the two years Sherman has been there he
has had 155 Accessions to Church - 76
last year 79 this. They raised his salary $600
this year, I think doing good work - Great love to both Will

Jermain Memorial Presbyterian Church
Barclay Jermain Club
Watervliet, N. Y.

May 6, 1935

Dear Dr Robinson,

Glad to hear from you, but am afraid I will not be much help.

Mr Knight is in Troy Presbytery and we are in Albany. so have not come in contact with him. However, I have made some inquiry and find he is well thought of by men in the Presbytery. Have not been able to find out about his education. He seems to be orthodox from our way of thinking, and that, I take it, is what you want to know. If Dr Fairlee were living I could get the inside dope from him, but not everybody will say what they think. Sorry I am not able to help you more but this is all I know. Glad you are still interested in "holding fast" some things many are letting slip.

If you are ever this way call and see us.

Cordially yours
W. D. Strangeway

CABLE ADDRESS, "INCULCATE NEW YORK"

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THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

April 29, 1935

Rev. W. Courtland Robinson, D.D.
Delhi, New York

My dear Cort:

Your note of Saturday is just received and I am glad to hear that you youself are to be a commissioner to the General Assembly.

As to the Moderatorship, I have never lifted my finger or spoken a word for or against any candidate for the Moderatorship, and would not want to break such a good resolution now. If I had my way I would not go within 500 miles of the General Assembly, but would go off somewhere and pray that the spirit of God might control His church and lead it to practice the Gospel which it was established to proclaim.

It is always a pleasure to hear from you and to remember old times and to think of the peace we shall have in heaven.

Very cordially yours,

RES:B

CABLE ADDRESS, "INCULCATE NEW YORK"

TELEPHONE WATKINS 9-2000

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

March 18, 1935

Rev. W. Courtland Robinson, D.D.
Delhi, New York

My dear Cort:

I was very glad to get this morning your letter of March 15th full of the friendship which has existed between us these fifty years. How well I remember those college days and the meeting of our volunteer mission bands in your room, was it not, in old Nassau.

With regard to this present situation in the Church and the action of the last General Assembly and the consequent consideration by the Presbyteries, I am glad for the opportunity to make it perfectly clear that our Board and its officers have stood wholly aloof. We had nothing to do with the Assembly's action and have had nothing to do with any of the proceedings in any of the Presbyteries. It has seemed to us that the whole question was a constitutional question to be dealt with by the judicatories of the Church. Our Board is simply the administrative agent of the General Assembly for conducting the foreign missionary work of the Church. It is directly amenable to the General Assembly and the establishment of the Independent Board was and is a constitutional question for the courst of the Church.

I have read through recently very carefully Charles Hodge's "Church Polity" and his "Constitutional History of the Presbyterian Church." There are parts of them that would seem to have written for this very situation. I wish that ever minister and elder would read these two books and be guided by them in this present situation.

I wish with you that we could see some light on this present trouble but I fear there is very little. The group which has been the aggressor from the beginning has declared and is declaring now quite frankly that there can be no peace or unity, that, as both the Sunday School Times and Dr. Machen say, it is a fight to the finish. If there were any possibility of concord or trust the situation would be different, but Dr. Machen and Mr. Griffiths have both stated repeatedly that there is no such possibility; that the entire Board of Foreign Missions and all its officers must be displaced and that after this has been done the other Boards must be dealt with, and of course the principle which they are pursuing with regard to the General Assembly and the courts of the Church is simply sheer independency and if it prevails will be the end of our Presbyterian government. I fear accordingly that you and I will be finishing our work with our dear Church torn with this dissension.

As for the Princeton Seminary matter to which you refer I would rejoice if I had never been involved in it at all and I would turn over my place in the Board of Trustees to you this very moment with joy and delight but in this, as in the whole present situation, I think the true explanation was given by Dr. E. D. Warfield in his speech, I think at the Assembly in St. Paul, when he said that in his judgment the issue was not doctrinal but that the whole trouble rooted in personalities. I have just looked up Dr. Warfield's statement and find that it was made at the Assembly of 1928 as follows: "In my judgment the root and ground of the difficulties are embodied in personalities and so far as they are not embodied in personalities they are embodied in the lack of that tolerance which we so strongly claim for ourselves and so generally deny to others."

With regard to Anderson, I don't know where you got the information that he was not to return to India. If he does not it will be solely on account of his wife's health. Ever since the settlement of the Delhi question we have had no other plan but for him to return and everything is just waiting now upon the final clearance of Mrs. Anderson by the doctors. There is, of course, the possibility that if Mr. Anderson were to receive a call here at home that might be regarded as a providential indication that he and we were not to take the health risks involved in Mrs. Anderson's return but in the absnece of such a call he and we are proceeding on the full expectation of their sailing this spring.

I should be glad if you would let me have your judgment some time with regard to Mr. MacInnes, your old minister in Delhi. If there should come a need and opportunity in some of the general work of our Board do you think he would have the qualifications and the calibre for it?

With old time affection,

Your sincere friend,

Robert E. Speer

RES:B

March 13, 1935
720 E. Broadway
Monmouth, Ill.

My dear Dr. Robinson:

This is just a note to let you know that we will be in Dallas before April 7th. We have set a definite date with the mover. He is going to load our furniture on Wednesday morning April 3rd and will arrive in Dallas sometime Thursday April 4th. I have been excused from my speaking engagement before the young people. I didn't like to go back on them at this late date but every thing considered I believe it was best. That will give us a good start at the first of the church year and will let us get settled before the Easter season is

upon us. We are anxious to be started in our new work. The circumstances that surrounded the call and the way in which it was presented makes me feel certain that it is a call of God. From all you tell me and from all I observe I believe it will be a fruitful field in which to labor.

A few days ago I received a letter from Mr. Max Jones, in it he told us how they liked the church and how badly they hated to leave. I might mention the fact that he spoke very kindly of you. You may be sure that I will be taking advantage of some of the advice and help that you will be able to give. We are looking forward to a most happy pastorate. With kindest regards to both Mrs Robinson and yourself. I am, cordially yours,

James R. Speer

OAKDALE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HASTINGS STREET, OAKDALE, PA.
JAMES R. SPEER, MINISTER

March 7,1935

The Rev. W.C.Robinson D.D.
Delhi, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Robinson:

I sent a letter to you "special" that should have reached you by the end of last week . Yours and mine must have passed on the way. Our house looks as though a great wind storm had struck it, boxes, barrels, and what not. Of course we are anxious to get up to Delhi and get started in our new work. We feel certainally that it is the Lord's call.

As yet we have not heard from the mover and have not been able to make any definite plans. You mentioned April 7 as a good date for beginning our work in the First Church. I realize it would be desireable to start our work the first of the month or by the first Sabbath and we will if we can possible do it but I cannot promise at this time. I can say however that you can count on us for sure for the second Sabbath.

I was much distressed on Saturday night to learn that my father had had an attack of appendicitis and was operated on but there were no complications and he is comming along alright. Of course befor we go up to N.Y.State we want to go to Monmouth to see my wifes mother and go up to Erie to visit with my own folks.

I do not have a robe as yet . I believe you mentioned the fact that there was one in the church that could be used for awhile. If this is not true I wish you would let me know. Perhaps you could tell me something of how the change is made. I ask for a letter of transfer to your presbytery and then the call is given to me up there I believe.

Both Mrs. Speer and myself surely enjoyed being in your home and meeting you and Mrs. Robinson and are looking forward to the pleasure of knowing you both better. If you write to me during this next week (March 11) send the letter to :

720 East Broadway , Monmouth ,Ill.

With kindest regards to you both ,

Cordially ,

James R. Speer

OAKDALE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HASTINGS STREET, OAKDALE, PA.
JAMES R. SPEER, MINISTER

February 28,1935

The Rev. W.C.Robinson D.D.
Delhi , N.Y.

Dear Dr. Robinson:

The telegram that you sent was a little slow in being delivered having come in just this morning. We will accept the call at the $3000 salary. In regard to the salary , my wife and I have thought about the matter a good deal, and we believe it would be a good thing to offer to take $2800 for this next year--and if the treasurer of the church had the other $200 and the church felt able to give it to us they could do so at the end of the year, if they did not feel able to do so it would not be necessary and absolutely nothing would be said about it as far as we are concerned. At the first meeting I attend I purpose to state these facts. Now Dr. Robinson you can do what ever you choose with these facts to use them for the churches best advantage and unity. Personally I believe it would be a good thing to make them public. We want the people to realize that we are comming in the best of faith and that we earnestly desire to do the thing that is fair.

I do not know the procedure but I suppose that I ask for a letter of transfer to your Presbytery and that the call is presented there.

At the present moment we are not able to set a date for beginning our work in the First Church but we realize that the people would like to have us begin at the earliest possible date. We too would like to begin at the earliest date possible. I have an address to give before the Pittsburgh district of our young people April 6. Mrs. Speer would like to go out to Illinois to see her mother before she goes up into New York State. I thought perhaps that if we resign here to take effect April 15 it would be an advantageous time. The only difficulty with that date is that it makes Easter Day our first day in Delhi and that would not be so good. Perhaps we could arrange it so that we could start our work there April 14 th. Please advise me in this regard.

We feel very happy over the call especially as we think of the fine high type people you have in your congregation. We feel certainly that it is in His plan for us and we will give the very best that we have in Christs service at Delhi.

Most cordially,

James R. Speer

P.S. We will get in touch with the movers at once.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

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MINUTES IN TRANSIT	
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TD G OAKDALE PENN 26FEB 1935

W COURTLAND ROBINSON

DELHI NY

CONCERNING SALARY HAVING VET YOUR FINE PEOPLE WE HAVE IMPLICIT TRUST IN THEM TO SEE THE MATTER FROM THEIR VIEWPOINT AND OURS REMEMBERING SERIOUSNESS OF CHANGING DENOMINATION LOSS OF DENOMINATIONAL CONTACT SUBSEQUENT INDEBTEDNESS LET THERE BE NO DIVISION WE WILL PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER A UNANIMOUS CALL PLEASE WIRE RESULT OF MEETING

JAMES R SPEER

9400

WESTERN UNION GIFT ORDERS ARE APPROPRIATE GIFTS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

OAKDALE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HASTINGS STREET, OAKDALE, PA.
JAMES R. SPEER, MINISTER

February 16,1935

Dr. W. C. Robinson D.D.
Delhi, New York.

Dear Dr. Robinson:

Although I do not know you, your name is a fit introduction to any United Presbyterian . I think I might be able to claim a common bond also in my scotch decent. So much for introductions.

I am answering both your letter and Mr. Ringholm's because I did not know which to answer. As I told you we are interested in the church for with all our inquiry we have heard nothing but good reports. You spoke of the matter of the time you wished your pastor to take his vacation and suggested that it not be in the summer months, we have no children and the school problem does not enter into the consideration so that would be very easily arranged. As I said to Mr. Ringholm there are many angles that we must consider, and you being a minister would appreciate their acuteness, but I believe in the end that if it is His will that a man accept a call that the way will be made so clear that he cannot mistake it. I am not able to give any definite answer, however Mrs. Speer and myself are planning to go up to Delhi the first of the week if the weather permits. I hope that I may have the opportunity of meeting some of the committee and talking the matter over with them, perhaps we may be able to come to some conclusion, at any rate I will enjoy meeting some of them and speaking to some of the congregation.

I especially appreciated your sence of humor when you spoke of the pastor in the church. However on that score, from every thing I hear, I am sure it would be clear sailing. The fact of the matter is that we have a minister in the congregation here. If a call is not accepted you may be sure it is not because of any Pastor Emeritus.

We have college friends living in Walton John Mc Bride who married Katherine Patterson the daughter of the lawyer of Walton by that name.

I am looking forward to the pleasure of meeting you,

Most cordially,

James R. Speer

Feb. 22nd
216 Harding
Oakdale, Pa.

My Dear Mrs. Robinson:
We arrived home this evening after a very strenuous drive today from Tyrone, Pa. It took us seven hours to drive 130 miles. It was snowing a gale and made driving very slow. But we are home safe and sound for which we are very thankful.

But we are very glad that we went to Nellie. We enjoyed our stay very much. Everyone was so lovely to us. I have never met a lovelier

group of people. I'm sure Delhi would be a grand place to live.

Mr. Speer and I both want to thank you and Mr. Robinson for your hospitality. We enjoyed meeting you both and we appreciated your entertaining us to lunch and dinner.

You folks have a very attractive and interesting home. I was fascinated by your rare and beautiful antiques.

Very Sincerely
Elizabeth M. Speer
(Mrs. James R. Speer)

OAKDALE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
HASTINGS STREET, OAKDALE, PA.
JAMES R. SPEER, MINISTER

February 22, 1935

Dr. W. Courtland Robinson
Delhi, New York.

Dear Dr. Robinson:

Upon arriving home this afternoon and looking through the United Presbyterian I was much distressed at seeing a notice that I had been called to the First Presbyterian Church of Delhi N.Y. I called the Business Manager of the United Presbyterian at once and asked him where he had received the information . I explained to him that a call had not been offered to me and that I had received no information except from the committee. Mr. Downs, the Business Manager , said that he would write you a letter of apology in the morning and also send a copy to me. I cannot understand how the rumor was put into the paper as fact, and more than that I do not understand how they got the rumor at all for I have told no one. I told Mr. Downs that it did both the church and myself an injustice. He was sorry that the error had occured and I trust that his letter will straighten out the matter.

Both Mrs. Speer and myself were very well impressed with the people of the First Church Delhi. We were especially glad that we had the opportunity of meeting the people on Wednesday evening . After having returned we have decided that if a call should be given to us, for an amount that would justify the leaving of the United Presbyterian Church and the contacts that we have made here in the Pittsburgh Area , we would accept it.

We appreciated your hospitality and send kindest regards to both Mrs. Robinson and yourself.

Cordially,

James R. Speer

February 22, 1935.

Mr. Hollis W. Stewart,
21 Pearl Street,
Glens Falls, N. Y.

My dear Hollis:

It was very kind of you to send me the word from Aunt Minnie, and I certainly was deeply interested in the news which it brought.

Anna was just my age, being a week younger or older, I forget which. She was a very beautiful girl and, in early days, we were much together. I think her life has been, in some respects, rather sad, although her boy was a great comfort to her. This reminds us that Death is encroaching upon our generation, and it will not be many years before our names will be out of the active list.

I am glad to hear from the family. I have been in not robust health, but I am doing much better than I did a year ago, when I was flat on my back in bed. I get about and I preach once a week, and I am feeling very comfortable, but do not exercise myself, very much.

It is strange that Mattie does not make some improvement in mind. It is good to know, however, that she is physically well and, I hope, reasonably happy.

We are in the trying business of calling a new pastor to our Church. I will be very glad when it is settled.

Extend our love to Aunt Minnie and your mother; also to Madge and Eunice. I hope you are continuing in good health, and I wish you might get back to your old activity.

Very sincerely yours,

WCR/RW

Monday.

Dear Court:- Aunt Minnie just received a letter from Jamie, saying Anna died in Akron on Feb 11. She had just returned from there and wrote from Mount Vernon, N.Y. where she and Mr. Laubach are spending the winter with Will at 147 Archer Ave, in case you care to write her. Jamie requested Aunt Minnie to advise you, and she said it was so hard for her, that

I should write you. She died of secondary meningitis, with pneumonia. Interment will be in Cambridge in May or June.

We are all as usual, think Minnie is losing ground slowly. No word from Mattie, except she is well.

Our winter is quite tolerable. Real mild in February which is usually our cold month.

No news in particular.

Very Sincerely

Harris

CABLE ADDRESS, "INCULCATE NEW YORK"

TELEPHONE WATKINS 9-2000

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

February 14, 1935

The Rev. W. Courtland Robinson, D. D.,
Delhi,
New York.

My dear Court:

Your good letters and your thoughtful telegram of February 5 with regard to Mr. Anderson have all been received. It has been quite a mix-up. Indeed, I don't know a case for years that has been so confused and vibratory as this one. The course of the Board throughout has been perfectly clear, but there have been shifts of attitude on the part of others and uncertainties both in the Mission and in the mind of Mr. Anderson. I trust, however, that everything is clear and settled now. The only element of uncertainty that remains is as to Mrs. Anderson's health. She is at present in the hospital here, and if the doctors approve of her return, they will sail in March. If the doctors disapprove, then they will have to give up the thought of India and turn again to find a settlement at home.

Thank you very much for all your sympathy and help. I trust that nothing may interfere now with their getting back to India for the direct evangelistic work there.

Very cordially yours,

Robert E. Speer

RES:AMW

February 13, 1935.

Mr. Robert E. Speer,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City, N. Y.

My dear Robert:

I was, really, very much distressed, because of the outcome of Anderson's visit here. Mrs. Robinson and I were very much charmed with him, and I think I told you I would have been glad to have had him here, but, from the glimpses that we had, I was not quite so sure about inviting his family to live with us. At any event, I could not have brought the conclusion to call him heartily, as, just at that time, our hearts became set on a young man, whose name is "Speer", the same as yours. He is the Reverend James R. Speer, Pastor of a U. P. Church, Oakdale, Pennsylvania. Our Committee has agreed to call him. He certainly has a name that we would appreciate. I hope he will turn out to be the man. He is young, twenty-eight years old.

I am truly sorry in heart for Howard Anderson. If it is as it looks from this distance, his life can not be very pleasant. That is, of course, a remark to be kept within ourselves.

Very sincerely yours,

WCR/RW

February 13, 1935.

Reverend James R. Speer,
Oakdale,
Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. Speer:

Monday evening, the Committee to Nominate a Pastor for the First Presbyterian Church of Delhi, had a meeting, sixteen of the twenty members being present. We discussed the situation somewhat at length. Finally, it was voted, with no dissent, that we recommend that our Church call you as Pastor; salary, Twenty-five Hundred Dollars ($2500.00) per year, plus free use of the manse, a very good one, and four weeks' vacation each year. As to the vacation, it was the unanimous wish that it be taken in other months than June, July or August. They are, indeed, the usual vacation months, but, during my pastorate, I never went away those months, and found that we had the largest attendance and greatest prosperity of any period of the year. Mr. MacInnes, our last pastor, did go away during the summer, three of his four years here, and it did not work as well. There is no compulsion in this matter, but we are unanimous in our opinion that it is better for the Pastor to be here those months, when we have the largest attendance during the year. In addition, it was voted to pay your expenses of moving, if you come here.

You say you have heard good things of this Church. I may say that the movement to call you started with Bovina former residents, who were deeply in favor of your father and your mother, whom they remembered most kindly. We have also heard splendid reports as to you. Doctor McQuilkin and my cousin, Dr. Arch Robinson of Pittsburgh, both sent us commendatory letters. I sincerely hope you will favorably consider this call, which I am sure will be made. I hope it will be made without your preaching as a "candidate". That practice, so common, is one I, personally, strenuously oppose. In the days when I received calls, and I had several, I never consented to go and preach prior to a call from the Church. My favorite method was to visit the Church after they had called me, withholding my answer until I had looked them over. I hope that plan will work out this time.

We have an excellent Church here. It is entirely united. The people are loyal in attendance and support. We have a remarkably fine Session, better than is found in many Churches. We are all deeply interested, and a pastor with good spirit and some ability to preach will find a loyal constituency. We need, and expect, constant, earnest pastoral work. One-half of our people live out of the Village. Mr. MacInnes was a great favorite with us, but I am sure they are just as ready to respond to the same earnest and devoted spirit, which he revealed.

The worst feature of the Church is the fact that a Pastor Emeritus is here. I have a home here in this Village, in which I was born, and I had ten years as Pastor of this Church. I believe, however, that Mr. MacInnes would testify that I never injured, but, rather, helped him. I will be very glad to aid you in any way you ask me. I will scrupulously refrain from intruding upon you in any way. In my young days, I was Pastor of a Church, with the old pastor living in the Parish. We were dear friends, and lived together happily, as it were, a father and son. I would hope to continue such a relation with you, if you came. As you may suppose, I am frequently asked to participate in funerals and, on rare occasions, I am asked to officiate at a wedding. You can understand how I can scarcely refuse, when such requests come from people I have long known. However, I never seek them, and I hope they will not seem to you as a

I think that comprises the worst feature of our Church here.

Talking with the Reverend Harvey McClellan, now Pastor at Bovina, I have become very eager to know you, and to have you as our Pastor. The Congregational Meeting is called for February twenty-seventh. If it should come to pass that you should decide against us, I hope you will let us know your decision prior to that date. I certainly hope your decision will be made <u>for</u> us, and that we may look forward to having you here by, <u>say</u>, April first, which begins the new Church year.

I met your father and mother, and was greatly pleased with them. We hear good words about Mrs. Speer, and we are eager to know her.

Accept my kindly regards.

Yours very truly,

WCR/RW

CABLE ADDRESS, "INCULCATE NEW YORK"

TELEPHONE WATKINS 9-2000

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

February 4, 1935

Rev. W. Cortland Robinson, D.D.,
Delhi, New York

My dear Cort:

This case of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson of India is still giving us much perplexity. After everything seemed to be cleared for their return to India, although the doctors were still a little uncertain on the score of Mrs. Anderson's health, the prospect of the call to Delhi came to him. Mr. Anderson was in great doubt whether this was a call of God for him to remain in America or a temptation to him to turn aside from his call to India. After great prayer and under the urgency of Mrs. Anderson herself he telegraphed you giving up any thought of Delhi and notified us that he was clear as to his duty and desire to return to India. We have gone ahead with joy and confidence on this basis accordingly until just today Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have been here and Dr. Dodd, the medical advisor of the Board has just been in this minute to tell me that now that it seemed to be all settled Mrs. Anderson instead of rallying seems to have lost her nerve about returning. You can see what a difficult situation this has created for us and for Mr. Anderson. If Mrs. Anderson continues in this mood the doctors will undoubtedly advise against her going back. Dr. Dodd regrets now that he did not at once forbid her return when the possibility of the call to Delhi appeared.

I am writing now to ask confidentially whether it would be possible to renew the call to Delhi, if in the judgment of the doctors it would be unwise on health grounds for Mrs. Anderson to return to India. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Anderson knows that I am writing but Dr. Dodd wishes me to do wo with the thought, I think, that if you could renew the call to the Andersons, he would advise them to accept. On the other hand Mr. Anderson may feel now that he must go, and one danger is that Mrs. Anderson in her loyalty may swing about and support him in this. On the other hand Dr. Dodd seems to feel strongly that it would be better for them to settle here now and he only regrets that he was not as clear in his mind on this point when the call to Delhi was available.

Can you tell me inconfidence whether the call to Delhi could be renewed? There has been nothing in the conduct of the Andersons that should qualify the desire of the Church to have them. In his theological and evangelistic position he is just the man you want. He and Mrs. Anderson are truly devoted and I think would be an admirable pair for your field.

I should be very grateful if you could send me a speedy answer that might help us in helping these friends and I think also in helping you.

With kind regard,

Very cordially yours,

Robert E. Speer

CABLE ADDRESS, "INCULCATE NEW YORK"

TELEPHONE WATKINS 9-2000

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

January 16, 1935

Rev. W. Courtland Robinson, D.D.
Delhi, New York

My dear Cort:

I have just received your inquiry regarding Malcolm Van Dyke. All my impressions of him are favorable but I cannot answer your question as to his ability as a preacher, having never heard him make even a short address. He is one of the younger members of our Board and has proven a good useful member, attentive and thoughtful, but I cannot speak as to his forcefulness and efficiency in either his preaching or pastoral work. From my personal contacts with him I should say that he is a very good man for your committee to consider in connection with the First Church of Delhi, but I am not qualified to give you the information you need.

We have at home now from India a missionary who might be just the sort of man you want - the Rev. H. E. Anderson, whom the Mission has been asking by cable to return as soon as possible but who may be delayed here or who may conclude to remain here. I think it would be worth your while to hear him preach. Doctrinally and in his conception of evangelism and evangelistic preaching he would wholly conform to your specifications. He is at present in one of the missionary apartment houses in Princeton - (44 Alexander Street). I should think it would be well if your Committee would hear both him and Mr. Van Dyke.

It is a real pleasure to hear from you again.

With warm regard, I am,

Very cordially yours,

RES:B

I think Anderson will be going back to India